

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO



The Appellate Law Section presents

Trailblazing Women on California's Courts of Appeal

Celebrating Seven Historic Female Firsts on California's Courts of Appeal:
Diversity, Representation, and the Judicial Appointments Process

Tuesday

July 29, 2025

MCLE Registration: 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

In-Person Program: 12:00 - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch will be provided.

Trailblazing Female Firsts

Abbot Adams: first California female justice

Arleigh Woods: first California African American female justice

Sheila Prell Sonenshine: first California Jewish American female justice and youngest California intermediate appellate court justice

Joyce Kennard: first California Asian American female justice, first California immigrant female justice, first California non-native English speaking female justice, and first California disabled female justice

Ramona Godoy Perez: first California Hispanic female justice

Eileen Moore: first and only California female military veteran justice

Therese Stewart: first California openly lesbian justice

Speakers



Justice Shama Hakim Mesiwala

Third District Court of Appeal



Deputy Appointments Secretary Adam Hofmann

Office of California Governor Gavin Newsom

This program highlights the groundbreaking contributions of seven trailblazing female justices who were the first to serve on California's Courts of Appeal. Justice Shama Hakim Mesiwala will share insights into their historic achievements and the broader impact of representation in the judiciary. The program will also feature a Q&A with Deputy Appointments Secretary Adam Hofmann, who will discuss the judicial appointments process and the importance of cultivating a diverse and inclusive applicant pool. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how diversity enhances the fairness and credibility of California's justice system.

Section Chair

Micheline Insalaco, Sucherman & Insalaco

Register online: www.sfbbar.org/calendar

MCLE: 1 Hour of Elimination of Bias

To receive MCLE credit, you must sign in during the designated MCLE registration period. This activity is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of California.

BASF is a certified provider. Provider #103

Pre-registration is required.

Location

In-Person

BASF Offices

50 Fremont Street, Suite 1700

San Francisco, CA

Cost

Free for BASF Appellate Section Members, Judges and Clerks

\$45 All Others

All prices increase \$10 on the day of the program

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Queen's Bench
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Viewing Options



In-Person program, register at www.sfbbar.org

Special Requests:

People with disabilities should contact BASF regarding reasonable accommodations at events@sfbbar.org.

All are welcome, varying rates apply based on membership status.

Event Code: G255303